

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.

President T. Tenneson called the regular Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: F. Aleckson, B. Koxlien, P. Kujak, K. Lien, Smikrud, D. Thompson, and T. Tenneson. Also present: J. Eide, D. Eide, L. Halverson, Katie Belitz, Amanda Jensen, Amber Lambright, Gwen Kidd, Lee Henschel, and Fred Nehring.

Mission statement – “To educate all learners to reach their potential as productive citizens” was read aloud.

No public comments.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to approve minutes of the January 2017 regular and closed meetings. Motion carried.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien to approve bills for the month of January. January bills include payroll advice of deposits #26380-26579, payroll checks #58078-58082, money wires #249, #483-484, #3332-3333, expense checks #15335-15339, #57638-57799, employer-paid HSA contributions of \$61,000 and employee-paid HSA contributions of \$2,452.72. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Smikrud with second by D. Thompson to approve the January financial statement. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Reports:

Student Council by Amber Lambright: Working on new member applications for second semester. Recycling is going very well, as members are signing up to help every day. Council members are looking for new ideas to improve our school.

Superintendent by Jeff Eide: Currently the last day of school will be June 5th for students and June 6th for teachers, but this could change. Message will be sent to parents when last day of school is finalized. Upcoming committee meetings: Long-Range Planning (D. Smikrud, T. Tenneson, D. Thompson) on March 6th at 6:00 p.m. and Policy Review (F. Aleckson, D. Smikrud, D. Thompson) on March 13th at 6:00 p.m. On March 22nd, Bruce Miles from WASB will meet with Long-Range Planning committee members and Superintendents from 5:30–7:00 p.m. about a creating long-range plan for the consortium. Then all consortium Board members will meet from 7:00-9:00 p.m. ALICE training has been going well, as Mr. Eide has met with students twice. For added safety a sample door closure for doors opening inward has been ordered as well as a device that slides over hinged doors. Proposed Frisbee golf course for the school site, which was created by a staff member and her spouse, was reviewed. 2015-16 audit books were distributed. With the Governor’s preliminary biennium budget rural school districts could see increases in per-pupil, sparsity, and high cost transportation state aids. Mandatory start date of September 1st may also change.

Elementary Principal by Lynn Halverson: Father & Daughter/Mother & Son dance hosted by Student Leaders on February 10th was very successful with 150-200 students and parents attending. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on the evenings of March 14th and March 16th. Second round of Fountas & Pinnell benchmark assessments that will test student reading growth will be done by early March. Since the writing piece of the ELA curriculum will be implemented next school year, some teachers will pilot the writing curriculum this spring. Science committee continues to work on best options for new science curriculum.

Middle/High School Principal by Dana Eide: ACT tests will be administered to Grade 11 students on February 28th and March 1st. Will provide a light breakfast for students with testing being done in the music room instead of the auditorium. Grades 7-8 students will take the Forward exam in March, and grade 10 students will take the ACT Aspire test in April. Rigorous work in the classroom is the best way to prepare students for these tests. Practice tests show students the format of the test, which is all done electronically. In honor of FFA Week the FFA is hosting a Talent Show on February 21st with 8 different acts performing. Sarah Davis and Troy Tiedens are the teachers in charge of starting a school newspaper. Copies of the "Cat Scratch" were shared. Wildcat Way Wallapalooza replaced the high school recognition event, as it took too long to hand out students' certificates. New event was held in the gym with confetti being shot off, t-shirts were thrown into the crowd, and names were drawn for prizes. Big prize was a \$50.00 gift certificate. Booster Club donated money towards this event and Mandy Schultz was a great help. Congratulations to Reed Guenther and Chad Waldera, qualifiers for state wrestling tournament! An all-school pep rally will be held on February 23rd before their send-off to Madison. Congratulations to the wrestling team for earning the Dairyland Conference title! Congratulations to the girl's basketball team for being the champions of the small school Dairyland Conference! P-T Conferences are scheduled for the evenings of March 30th and April 6th.

Pupil Services by Katie Belitz: Child Development Day was successful. Big Cats & Little Cats continue to meet with game/activity one time and then study time the next. Copies of the Pupil Nondiscrimination Self-Evaluation – Cycle V 2017 Report were shared. PI-9 team members (K. Belitz, Principals, school counselors, athletic director, and two secretaries) identified the recommendations for improvement for staff and students, established a target date of development, revision or implementation, and determined who's responsible for monitoring the recommendation and assessing the outcomes when completed. This report is required of all schools in the state every five years.

Discussion:

For 2017-18 school calendar elementary staff would like a floating day at the beginning of the year and secondary staff prefers a floating day at the end of the year. Orientation Day has been changed to August 29th. The CESA #4 Board of Control position for our school district will be open in April. If no one from our district is interested, then another school district will fill the vacancy. D. Smikrud commented that he thoroughly enjoyed serving on the CESA #4 BOC and encouraged any of the Board members to consider it. A sample of the new football scoreboard recognizing Hi-Crush for their donation was reviewed. Rea Lighting from Minneapolis is the third company that we've been working with on retrofitting the lights of the 1999 portion of the building. We could order the LED lights from Rea Lighting, have our maintenance men install them, and save significantly more money. Approval to purchase lights bulbs and overtime pay for maintenance men is under action items. Final illustration of what the Wildcat Way/Wall of Inspiration will look like was previewed. If approved under action items, work will begin with completion date of May 1st.

Action Items:

Motion by P. Kujak with second by F. Aleckson to approve three-year contract with Amanda Jensen to provide Occupational Therapy services. Motion carried by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien to approve contract for Jessica McHugh, Food Service dishwasher at three hours per day. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by D. Smikrud to approve contract for Luanne Janzen, Food Service dishwasher at three hours per day. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien to approve girl's golf for 2017-18 school year. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by T. Tenneson to approve two-year contract with Gundersen Health System, Sports Medicine for athletic trainer services. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by P. Kujak to approve paying \$2,219.50, which is one-half of the total cost for new band uniforms. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Smikrud with second by D. Thompson to approve extra-curricular contract for Mac Bowen, Skills USA advisor. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by D. Thompson to approve extra-curricular contract for Kristi Smith, Elementary Robotics coach. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by K. Lien with second by P. Kujak to approve extra-curricular contract for Mianna Sobotta, Assistant Track coach. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by K. Lien to approve the Wildcat Way/Wall of Inspiration mock-up. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by K. Lien with second by D. Thompson to approve the purchase of LED retrofit light bulbs for the 1999 portion of the building using our own labor and to approve the needed overtime to get the work done. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes. Board members expressed their appreciation to Al and Luke for doing this project.

Motion by F. Aleckson with second by P. Kujak to approve the Pupil Non-Discrimination Summary (five-year review). Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes. Thanks to Katie Belitz for all her hard work!

Motion by D. Thompson with second by T. Tenneson to move to closed session at 7:05 p.m. in accordance with State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to approve extra-curricular contracts, staffing needs for 2017-18 school year, compensation model, and Western Wildcats. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by K. Lien with second by D. Smikrud to reconvene in open session. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by K. Lien with second by D. Smikrud to approve the following extra-curricular contracts: Jeremy Hanson-Head Football, Andy Nehring-Assistant Football, Jeffrey Eide-Assistant Football, Mac Bowen-Assistant Football, Gregory Bratina-Middle School Football, Justin Shramek-Assistant Middle School Football, Tammy Stensven-Head Volleyball, Mandy (McDonald) Schultz-Assistant Volleyball, Baleigh Kehe-Middle School Volleyball, Catherine Slenczka-Assistant Middle School Volleyball, Joshua Peterson-Head Cross-Country, Jared Peterson-Assistant/Middle School Cross-Country, and Mandy (McDonald) Schultz-Football Cheerleaders. Motion passed by roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Motion by D. Thompson with second by K. Lien to adjourn. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern Aleckson, Clerk